



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10**

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Seattle, WA 98101-3140

APR 17 2014

OFFICE OF
WATER AND WATERSHEDS

Mr. Barry Burnell, Administrator
Water Quality Division
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706-1255

Re: Approval of the Upper (North Fork) Coeur d'Alene River Subbasin Temperature Total
Maximum Daily Loads (July 2013)

Dear Mr. Burnell:

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality submitted the Upper (North Fork) Coeur d'Alene River Subbasin Temperature Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on July 26, 2013. Following our review, the EPA is pleased to approve fifty four TMDLs for the waters and pollutant listed in the attached Table 1. All of these waters were included in Idaho's 2010 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list (List) of impaired waters.

This approval only includes those waters for which a TMDL was completed and does not constitute approval for the proposed de-listing of waters within Hydrologic Unit Code 17010301 from the Idaho Section 303(d) list. Any proposed de-listing of waters will be considered at the time of submission of the next Section 303(d) list of impaired waters.

This submittal also includes implementation strategies for the TMDLs. IDEQ developed and submitted these strategies pursuant to the TMDL Settlement Agreement of July 2002. The EPA has no duty to approve or disapprove implementation strategies under Section 303(d); therefore, the EPA is not taking action on these strategies. Implementation is the critical next step to realize improvements in water quality, and we encourage IDEQ to continue their work with responsible parties on implementation of these strategies.

We would like to recognize Kajsa Stromberg for the dedication she has shown in working for many years with the North Fork Coeur d'Alene Watershed Advisory Group, and bringing these TMDLs to completion.



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By the EPA's approval, these TMDLs are now incorporated into the State's Water Quality Management Plan under Clean Water Act Section 303(e). If you have any comments or questions, please feel free to call me at (206) 553-1855, or you may call Leigh Woodruff of my staff at (208) 378-5774.

Sincerely,



Daniel D. Opalski, Director
Office of Water and Watersheds

cc: Mr. Doug Conde, Attorney General, Idaho (via email)
Mr. Michael McIntyre, Surface Water Program Manager, IDEQ (via email)
Ms. Marti Bridges, TMDL Program Manager, IDEQ (via email)
Mr. Dan Redline, Coeur d'Alene Regional Office, IDEQ (via email)
Mr. Thomas Herron, Coeur d'Alene Regional Office, IDEQ (via email)
Mr. Robert Steed, Coeur d'Alene Regional Office, IDEQ (via email)
Ms. Kajsa Stromberg, Coeur d'Alene Regional Office, IDEQ (via email)
Mr. Laird Lucas, Advocates for the West (via email)
Ms. Kristen Boyles, Earthjustice (via email)

Table 1: EPA-Approved TMDLs on Impaired Waters
Upper (North Fork) Coeur d'Alene River Subbasin Temperature TMDL

| Name of Creek/Water Segment | Assessment Unit # | Pollutant |
|---|--------------------------|------------------|
| North Fork Coeur d'Alene River tributaries below Prichard Creek | ID17010301PN001_02 | temperature |
| North Fork Coeur d'Alene River below Prichard Creek | ID17010301PN001_05 | temperature |
| North Fork Coeur d'Alene River between Yellowdog and Prichard Creeks | ID17010301PN001_05a | temperature |
| Graham Creek below Deceitful Gulch | ID17010301PN002_03 | temperature |
| Beaver Creek headwaters and tributaries | ID17010301PN003_02 | temperature |
| Beaver Creek below White Creek | ID17010301PN003_03 | temperature |
| Prichard Creek below Eagle Creek | ID17010301PN004_04 | temperature |
| Prichard Creek headwaters and tributaries above Butte Gulch | ID17010301PN005_02 | temperature |
| West Fork Eagle Creek and tributaries | ID17010301PN008_02 | temperature |
| Lost Creek below East Fork Lost Creek | ID17010301PN009_03 | temperature |
| Shoshone Creek below Falls Creek | ID17010301PN010_03 | temperature |
| Falls Creek and tributaries | ID17010301PN011_02 | temperature |
| Shoshone Creek headwaters and tributaries above Falls Creek | ID17010301PN012_02 | temperature |
| Shoshone Creek between Little Lost Fork and Falls Creek | ID17010301PN012_03 | temperature |
| North Fork Coeur d'Alene River tributaries between Tepee and Yellowdog Creeks | ID17010301PN013_02 | temperature |
| North Fork Coeur d'Alene River between Jordan and Tepee Creeks | ID17010301PN013_04 | temperature |
| North Fork Coeur d'Alene River between Tepee and Yellowdog Creeks | ID17010301PN013_05 | temperature |
| Jordan Creek and Lower Lost Fork | ID17010301PN014_03 | temperature |
| North Fork Coeur d'Alene River, upper, headwaters, and tributaries | ID17010301PN015_02 | temperature |
| North Fork Coeur d'Alene River, upper, and lower Buckskin Creek | ID17010301PN015_03 | temperature |
| North Fork Coeur d'Alene River between Buckskin and Jordan Creeks | ID17010301PN015_04 | temperature |
| West Elk Creek and Cataract Creek | ID17010301PN016_02 | temperature |
| Tepee Creek between Trail Creek and Independence Creek | ID17010301PN017_04 | temperature |
| Tepee Creek below Independence Creek | ID17010301PN017_05 | temperature |
| Independence Creek headwaters and tributaries | ID17010301PN018_02 | temperature |

| | | |
|---|---------------------|-------------|
| Declaration Creek, lower | ID17010301PN018_03a | temperature |
| Snow Creek, lower | ID17010301PN018_03b | temperature |
| Independence Creek below Declaration Creek | ID17010301PN018_04 | temperature |
| Trail Creek headwaters and tributaries | ID17010301PN019_02 | temperature |
| Trail Creek below Stewart Creek | ID17010301PN019_03 | temperature |
| Tepee Creek headwaters and tributaries | ID17010301PN020_02 | temperature |
| Tepee Creek between Short Creek and Trail Creek | ID17010301PN020_03 | temperature |
| Brett Creek and tributaries | ID17010301PN021_02 | temperature |
| Miners Creek and tributaries | ID17010301PN022_02 | temperature |
| Flat Creek, lower | ID17010301PN023_03 | temperature |
| Yellowdog Creek and tributaries | ID17010301PN024_02 | temperature |
| Brown Creek and tributaries | ID17010301PN026_02 | temperature |
| Steamboat Creek headwaters and tributaries | ID17010301PN028_02 | temperature |
| Steamboat Creek and West Fork Steamboat Creek below Comfy Creek | ID17010301PN028_03 | temperature |
| Cougar Gulch below East Fork Cougar Gulch | ID17010301PN029_03 | temperature |
| Little North Fork Coeur d'Alene River tributaries above Iron Creek | ID17010301PN030_02a | temperature |
| Little North Fork Coeur d'Alene River tributaries between Hudlow and Deception Creeks | ID17010301PN030_02c | temperature |
| Little North Fork Coeur d'Alene River tributaries below Skookum Creek | ID17010301PN030_02d | temperature |
| Little North Fork Coeur d'Alene River between Solitaire and Skookum Creeks | ID17010301PN030_03 | temperature |
| Little North Fork Coeur d'Alene River below Skookum Creek | ID17010301PN030_04 | temperature |
| Bumblebee Creek and tributaries | ID17010301PN031_02 | temperature |
| Laverne Creek and tributaries | ID17010301PN032_02 | temperature |
| Leiberg Creek and tributaries | ID17010301PN033_02 | temperature |
| Bootjack Creek and tributaries | ID17010301PN034_02 | temperature |
| Iron Creek and tributaries | ID17010301PN035_02 | temperature |
| Burnt Cabin Creek and tributaries | ID17010301PN036_02 | temperature |
| Deception Creek and tributaries | ID17010301PN037_02 | temperature |
| Skookum Creek, lower | ID17010301PN038_03 | temperature |
| Copper Creek, lower | ID17010301PN039_03 | temperature |